IUPAC

Appendix C

mutagenicity
Ability of a physical, chemical, or biological agent to induce heritable changes (*mutations*) in the genotype in a cell as a consequence of alterations or loss of *genes* or *chromosomes* (or parts thereof).

mutation
Any relatively stable heritable change in genetic material that may be a chemical transformation of an individual *gene* (*gene* or point *mutation*), altering its function, or a rearrangement, gain or loss of part of a *chromosome*, that may be microscopically visible (chromosomal mutation).
Note: Mutation can be either germinal, and inherited by subsequent generations, or somatic and passed through cell lineage by cell division.

myalgia
Pain or tenderness in a muscle or group of muscles.

myasthenia
Muscular weakness.

mycotoxin
Toxin produced by a fungus.

mydriasis
Extreme dilation of the pupil of the eye, either as a result of normal physiological response or in response to a chemical *exposure*.

myelosuppression
Reduction of bone marrow activity leading to a lower concentration of platelets, red cells and white cells in the blood.

(9) **nanoparticle**
Microscopic particle whose size is measured in nanometers, often restricted to so-called nanosized particles (NSPs; < 100 nm in aerodynamic diameter), also called ultrafine particles (see separate entry).

nanotoxicology
Scientific discipline involving the study of the actual or potential dangers presented by the harmful effects of nanoparticles on living organisms and ecosystems, of the relationship of such harmful effects to *exposure*, and of the mechanisms of action, diagnosis, prevention and treatment of intoxications.

narcotic
1. Nonspecific usage - an agent that produces insensibility or stupor.
2. Specific usage - an opioid, any natural or synthetic *drug* that has morphine-like actions.